

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 10 are amended and claims 11-22 are added.

An Election of Species was required in this application. Accordingly, Applicant elected Figures 1-9, claims 1-3 and 6-10. Applicant also adds claims 11-22. Applicant asserts that claims 11-14 and 17-22 are supported by Figures 1-9. Applicant also requests rejoinder of claims 4 and 5 and claims 15 and 16 because claims 1 and 12 remain generic to claims 4, 5, 15 and 16 and would thus be allowable for the same reasons that claims 1 and 12 would be allowable.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 10 has been amended responsive to the rejection. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability for claims 6-10. However, for the reasons discussed below, Applicant asserts that all of claims 1-22 are allowable.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Yoshida, U. S. Patent No. 6,024,410. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant asserts that the rejection has been rendered moot by the incorporation of some of the features of claim 6, which Applicant believes to be allowable, into claim 1. In particular, Applicant amends claim 1 to recite that a low-rigidity portion is formed in each of the first and second leg portions. Yoshida fails to disclose this feature because Yoshida only discloses a groove-cut portion 14e (Fig. 2), assumed to be the low-rigidity portion as asserted in the Office Action, on only one leg portion. Accordingly, Yoshida fails to disclose all of the features of claims 1-3. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

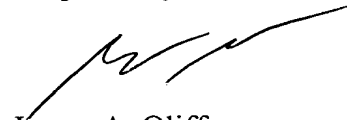
Applicant also asserts that Yoshida fails to disclose, at least, a low-rigidity portion that is formed to face a lateral wall of the guide groove of the holder as recited in claim 12.

Yoshida fails to disclose this feature because Yoshida's groove-cut portion 14e is formed to only face the other leg portion and not a lateral wall of a guide groove of a holder.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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